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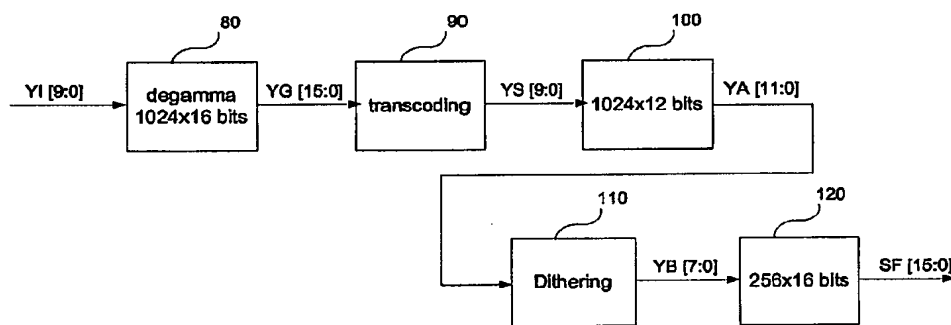
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(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR TRANSCODING N-BIT WORDS INTO M-BIT WORDS WITH M SMALLER N



(57) **Abstract:** The present invention concerns a method for transcoding a N bits word into a M bits word with  $M < N$ . The invention is applicable in various fields and more particularly in the display field. The method comprises the following steps :- breaking down the N bits word into an exponent part and a mantissa part having each a size which varies according to the value of said N bits word, the size of the mantissa part increasing with the value of said N bits word, and - encoding the exponent part of the N bits word into a variable number of bits A and removing, if need be, least significant bits of the mantissa part in order to obtain a mantissa with a variable number of bits B, with  $A+B=M$ .

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